

REMARKS:

This paper is herewith filed in response to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on January 29, 2007 for the above-captioned U.S. Patent Application. This office action is a rejection of claims 1-28 of the application. The Applicant disagrees with the rejection.

More specifically, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-28 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elg (WO99/37106) in view of Muller (US6,959,013).

In the rejection of claim 1 the Examiner states:

"Elg does not explicitly show that punctuating the series of messages of a first type with messages of a second type, transmitted within the network of transceivers, for maintaining synchronization;" and

"In the same field of endeavor, Muller teaches punctuating the series of messages of a first type with messages of a second type, transmitted within the network of transceivers, for maintaining synchronization (col. 8 line 34 through col. 9 line 7)."

The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection below.

Muller discloses:

"Referring to FIG. 5, there is illustrated a sequence 500 of messages 512, 514, 516, 522, 524 and 526. These messages are transmitted by the master unit and are used by the slave units to maintain time synchronisation with the master unit and are used to wake up the slave units from the Park Mode," (col. 8, 34-38); and

"The sequence 500 of messages includes a first group of messages 510 and a second group of messages 520. The first and second groups are separated by an interval of time T1," (col. 8, lines 44-47).

As stated above, Muller discloses that an intermittent sequence of messages 500 are transmitted in order to maintain synchronization and to wake up slave units from Park Mode. As illustrated in Figure 5 Muller is merely transmitting a sequence of messages at intervals to maintain synchronization.

In claim1 messages of the first type are transmitted outside the network of transceivers and messages of a second type are transmitted within the network of transceivers. The Applicant contends that the Examiner has not indicated where in Muller it is disclosed or suggested that a sequence of messages of a first type transmitted outside the network of transceivers are punctuated with messages of a second type transmitted within the network of transceivers.

The Applicant contends that Muller is not seen to disclose or suggest “punctuating the series of messages of a first type with messages of a second type, transmitted within the network of transceivers,” (emphasis added), as in claim 1.

Further regarding the rejection of claim 1:

Muller discloses the operation of the master unit as follows:

“Referring now to FIG. 4, the operation of a transceiver operating as a master unit to create the sequence of messages 500 will be explained,” and “For the purposes of this explanation consider the master to have previously transmitted a first group of messages and to be about to transmit a second group of messages;” and

“The controller stores the group parameters N, T1 and defining the second group of messages in the memory 56. These parameters were transmitted in the first message of the first group of messages. The controller, when a period of time T1 has expired since the transmission of the first message in the first group of messages, initiates the transmission of the second group of messages.”

Muller discloses the operation of the slave unit as follows:

“Referring now to FIG. 4, the operation of a transceiver operating as a slave unit synchronising with the sequence of messages 500 will be explained,” “[...],” and “The transceiver is able to receive transmitted messages during the reception window defined by the predetermined period of time,” and “The shorter the reception window the lower the power consumption in the transceiver,” (col. 10, lines 57-67); and

“For the purposes of this example it is to be assumed that the receiver previously received the ith message in a first group of messages. This message contained a payload comprising as control information the parameters t, N and Ti defining the second group of messages, [...], The controller reads from memory 56 the group parameters (N, Ti and t) of the second group of messages which is about to be transmitted to the receiver;” (emphasis added), (col. 11, line 6-15). and

“The reception window controlled by the controller may be [centered] at a time Ti after the transmission of the ith message in the first group,” and “Consequently

the receiver 50 is synchronised in time via [enable] signal 85 and synchronised in frequency via the reception frequency control signal 49 with the transmission of the second group of messages from the master,” (emphasis added), (col. 11, line 15-21).

As disclosed above, Muller appears to maintain synchronization between a master and a slave unit using control information comprising a period of time (T1) between the two groups of messages, the timing between individual messages of the second group (t), and the number of messages in the second group. The control information allows the receiver to turn itself on at the correct time in order to receive the second group of messages. As disclosed in Muller, the payload of the message of the first group merely comprises control information for synchronization of further messages (messages of the second group) being sent by the master. Moreover, as clearly illustrated in Muller these messages are separated by a period of time (T1). Thus, Muller can not be seen as “punctuating the series of messages of a first type with messages of a second type, transmitted within the network of transceivers,” (emphasis added), as in claim 1.

The Applicant contends that for at least the reasons stated Muller does not disclose or suggest “punctuating the series of messages of a first type with messages of a second type, transmitted within the network of transceivers, for maintaining synchronization,” as in claim 1.

Moreover, although the Applicant does not agree that the combination of Elg and Muller is feasible or possible, the Applicant contends that for at least the reasons stated neither Elg nor Muller individually or combined is seen to disclose or suggest claim 1. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art could not modify Elg in view of Muller to disclose or suggest claim 1, and claim 1 should be allowed.

Regarding the rejection of claim 11 the Examiner states:

“Consider claim 11, Elg teaches a storage medium for data, comprising computer code for providing, in a low power radio frequency transceiver, punctuating transmission of a series of messages of a first type comprising a first

synchronization word independent of the identity of the low power radio frequency transceiver (page 6 lines 15-21).

Elg does not explicitly show that messages of a second type comprising a second synchronization word dependent upon the identity of the low power radio frequency transceiver.

In the same field of endeavor, Muller teaches messages of a second type comprising a second synchronization word dependent upon the identity of the low power radio frequency transceiver (col. 8 line 34 through col. 9 line 7)."

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner.

Claim 11 recites in part:

"A storage medium for data, comprising computer code for providing, in a low power radio frequency transceiver, means for punctuating transmission of a series of messages of a first type comprising a first synchronization word independent of the identity of the low power radio frequency transceiver, with messages of a second type comprising a second synchronization word dependent upon the identity of the low power radio frequency transceiver," (emphasis added).

As stated above the Applicant contends that Elg in view of Muller does not disclose or suggest punctuating a series of messages of a first type with messages of a second type, as in the present invention. Further, as stated above the Applicant does not agree that the combination of Elg in view of Muller is feasible or possible. For at least the reasons already stated neither Elg nor Muller individually or combined is seen to disclose or suggest claim 11.

Further, for at least the reasons stated a person of ordinary skill could not modify Elg in view of Muller to obtain a result as recited in claim 11. Thus, claim 11 should be allowed.

In addition, for at least the reason that the independent claims 10, and 19 recite language similar to that of claim 1 as noted above, neither Elg nor Muller suggest or disclose these claims, and all the independent claims 1, 10, 11, and 19 should be allowed.

Furthermore, as the claims 2-9; 12-18 and 28; and 20-27 depend from claims 1, 10, and 19

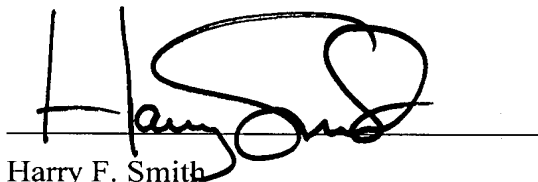
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Art Unit: 2618

respectively, neither Elg nor Muller suggest or disclose these claims, and all the claims 1-28 should be allowed.

Based on the above explanations and arguments, it is clear that neither Elg nor Muller can be seen to suggest or disclose claims 1-28. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and to allow all of the pending claims 1-28 as now presented for examination.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record. Should any unresolved issue remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

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S.N.: 10/501,249
Art Unit: 2618



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